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Coos Bay, OR 97420
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SCB was incorporated in 1982 under IRS code
501(c)(3) private nonprofit and currently serves
Coos, Curry, Douglas, Marion & Yamhill counties.

March 1, 2023

Senate Human Services Committee
900 Court St. NE
Salem Oregon 97301

Dear Committee Members:

RE: SB 606 - Oregon Nonprofit Modernization Act

South Coast Business asks you to pass SB 606, the Oregon Nonprofit Modernization Act. Your support is critical to the health of the nonprofit sector and the communities we serve.

Our mission and vision is for families to thrive and live in vibrant communities due to the quality programs we provision including senior services, workforce development, childcare, childcare business development, financial and tax preparation services, and fiscal sponsorship/back-office services for other nonprofits and local governments.

Contracting struggles are a reality for many nonprofits and South Coast Business is not immune. We are dependent on highly restricted grant support that does not cover general operations or the costs of a strong accounting team. We spend much of our time trying to cobble together a patchwork of funding sources to keep services and general operations running. We are subjected to complex and redundant paperwork to apply for and report on grants. And, finally, we are required to invest all of the grant monies into delivering immediate services, rather than investing in strengthening our capacity and infrastructure for the sustainability of these same valuable programs and services into the future. All of this contributes to a hollowed-out nonprofit organization with high rates of personnel turnover and executive burnout — not to mention an inability to grow stronger over time.

The OREGON NONPROFIT MODERNIZATION ACT can make a difference to South Coast Business and the communities we serve in Coos, Curry, Douglas, Marion and Yamhill counties by

- Requiring a de minimis administrative rate of 10 percent or higher
- Eliminating reimbursement as a form of payment for state grants
- Requiring disbursement of contract funds within 30-days of signed contract
- Creating the Nonprofit Workforce Retention Fund to provide grants nonprofits to help maintain and prevent employee turnover; and
- Creating a state task force to reform nonprofit contracting in order to streamline and simplify the process, raise wages, and create an ecosystem of administrative policies, statutes and funding levels that lead to sustainable government/nonprofit partnerships.

South Coast Business appreciates your consideration of SB 606. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,


Melissa Metz, CEO